

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 19, 2021

The Honorable Miguel Cardona  
Secretary of Education  
United States Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Secretary Cardona,

The Biden Administration's proposed rule injects toxic politics into civics and history education. The rule directly promotes the "1619 Project", a racially divisive and revisionist account of history. The "1619 Project" has been widely criticized by historians including James McPherson, and Gordon Wood, both leaders in the field.

America is built on the fundamental belief that all people are created equal. We live in the land of opportunity. While it is important to acknowledge and study America's historical failings, this rule would promulgate the false narrative that America is an irredeemably racist country. The "1619 Project" and Critical Race Theory divides society into oppressor and oppressed classes based on their race. Promoting this flawed understanding of history and society in our schools would divide our students along racial lines and undermine the principal bond that unites us as Americans: the belief that people should be judged on the content of their character not the color of their skin.

We must ensure that America's youth have an accurate understanding of civics and American history teaches them about our many successes, but also acknowledges our shortcomings. Most importantly, students should be equipped with the ability and positive motivation to make our society better for all. The "1619 Project" and Critical Race Theory fixate only on past flaws and do not offer a positive vision for a better future. Race should not be used as political weapon to divide and conquer.

It is time for Washington to come together in a bipartisan manner to strengthen the civics education and the study of American history in schools. This rule would implement partisan and divisive radical propaganda in the curriculum. The American people do not want to be further divided. This proposed rule incites distrust and deepens the political divide. We urge you to reconsider it and work to unite our divided nation around a positive, shared vision for the future.

Sincerely,



Tom Rice  
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson  
Member of Congress



Williams Timmons  
Member of Congress



Ralph Norman  
Member of Congress